

A sufficient Number of Members to compose a Lower House of Assembly being met at the Stadt-House, Mr. *Stoughton* and Col. *Dasbriel* are desired to acquaint his Excellency therewith.

*Daniel Dulany* and *Philip Thomas*, Esquires, of the Upper House, with Mr. *John Ross*, Clerk, came into the Lower House; in whose Presence the aforesaid Members took the several Oaths to the Government required by Law, signed the Oath of Abjuration, and repeated and signed the Test.

Col. *Lloyd* and Col. *Tasker*, from the Upper House, acquaint the Members of this House, that the Governor required their Attendance in the Upper House: The Members of the Lower House went to the Upper House; his Excellency required them to return, and make choice of a Speaker: They returned, and unanimously made choice of Col. *Edward Sprigg*, a Representative of *Prince George's* County, to be their Speaker, and placed him in the Chair.

Mr. *Stoughton* and Col. *Dasbriel* are sent to acquaint his Excellency, that the House had made choice of a Speaker.

*Edmund Jennings*, Esq; and Col. *Hammond*, from the Upper House, acquaint the Members of this House, that the Governor required their Attendance in the Upper House, in order to present their Speaker. The Members of the Lower House went to the Upper House, and presented Col. *Edward Sprigg* to the Governor as their Speaker: His Excellency was pleased to give his Approbation of their Choice, and then made the following Speech.

Gentlemen of the Upper and Lower Houses of Assembly,

IT is much against my Inclination that I am obliged to meet you at this early Season; but as the Safety of his Majesty's Subjects, in this and the neighbouring Provinces, is the Motive, I am persuaded you will cheerfully submit to some little Inconveniences for the public Good.

IN a Letter I have received from Mr. *Clinton*, the Governor of *New-York*, he represents in strong Terms, that the Solicitations and Arts practised by our Enemies the *French*, and their Jesuitical Emissaries, have rendered the Fidelity of the Six Nations of *Indians* greatly to be suspected; that there is too much Reason to apprehend that they will be seduced and drawn off from our Alliance, unless speedy and proper Methods be taken to prevent it.

THIS is the Purport of Mr. *Clinton's* Letter; and I think it incumbent on me particularly to recommend this Affair to your serious Consideration. It is a Matter which, as it offers you an Opportunity of shewing your Care for the public Safety, so it gives you a fair Occasion of manifesting your Duty and Zeal for his Majesty's Person and Service, an Occasion the more gladly to be embraced at this Time, as we are yet not informed of the Issue of that unnatural and wicked Rebellion, broke out in *Great-Britain*, in Favour of a Popish Pretender.

I CANNOT help adding, these poor *Indians* have at all Times, if we duly consider their Circumstances, a Claim to our Compassion and Assistance; but in our present Situation, when their Friendship is of great Importance to us, it would be highly impolitic to leave them to be seduced by our Enemies, who will not fail of applying to their Necessities; which, as they give us the first Offer of relieving, I doubt not you will come to such a Resolution as will contribute to secure the Fidelity of these People, and disappoint the Schemes of an Enemy ambitious of making all Mankind as meer Slaves as themselves.

Mr. *Clinton's* Letter will be laid before you.

The Members return to their House, and Mr. Speaker resumes the Chair. They make choice of Mr. *William Tilghman* to be their Clerk; and Mr. *Lloyd* and Mr. *Harrison* are ordered to acquaint his Excellency therewith, and to desire his Approbation: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker, they delivered their Message; and that the Governor was pleased to approve of their Choice of a Clerk.

The same Gentlemen are sent, with Mr. *Tilghman*, to the Upper House, to see him qualified: They return, and acquaint Mr. Speaker they saw him qualified; by taking the several Oaths to the Government, signing the Oath of Abjuration, repeating and signing the Test, and taking the usual Oath of Office.

Mr. Speaker communicates to the House the Letter from Governor *Clinton*, of *New-York*, mentioned in his Excellency's Speech; which was ordered to be read, and is as follows.

*New-York,*